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GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS WITHOUT A VOTE RESOLUTIONS ON THE ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED, DEMOCRATIC AND NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA AND ON UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

(20 December 1993)

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INTRODUCTION

On 20 December 1993, the General Assembly adopted five resolutions (48/159 A to D and 48/160) on agenda items 38 and 39, entitled "Elimination of apartheid and establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa" and "United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa", respectively. All five resolutions were adopted without a vote.

There was significant unanimity among speakers in assessing the situation in South Africa, identifying the areas of concern and indicating objectives for the international community in the upcoming period. All delegates welcomed the progress that had been made towards achieving a political settlement, in particular the establishment of the Transitional Executive Council (TEC). They also welcomed the lifting of all economic sanctions including the oil embargo. There were numerous references to the major contributions made by Mr. Nelson Mandela and President F. W. de Klerk in ensuring the success of the negotiations, as well as to the United Nations' fruitful efforts in encouraging and providing support for the process of political transition. For the first time, many delegations firmly stated that the process of change in South Africa was now irreversible.

The non-participation of some parties in the agreed transition process and the ongoing violence were seen by delegates as constituting the major threats to the success of that process and to the elections. Under these circumstances, it was considered that the international community must remain vigilant and continue to actively support the process of change in South Africa. A majority of speakers clearly identified two main areas where the international community should provide assistance at this stage and in the near future. These were assistance for the electoral process and assistance aimed at addressing South Africa's socio-economic problems. It was widely believed that the United Nations had a critical role to play in both respects.

Many delegations praised the work of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA) and called for the strengthening of its mandate. A substantial increase in the number of observers was also called for in order to support local peace structures and help ensure free and fair elections. The Security Council and the Secretary-General were praised for the decision to increase the number of United Nations observers in South Africa to one hundred.

In the resolution on the programme of work of the Special Committee against Apartheid, the General Assembly authorized the Committee to submit, as soon as possible, following the establishment of a democratically elected non-racial government,

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a final report to the General Assembly. Another resolution terminated the mandate of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa. For the first time since the item on apartheid was taken up by the General Assembly in 1948, all the five draft resolutions were adopted without a vote.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 20 DECEMBER 1993 UNDER AGENDA ITEM 38: "ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED, DEMOCRATIC AND NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA" AND AGENDA ITEM 39: "UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA"*

Resolution	Title	Vote
48/159 A	International efforts towards the total eradication of apartheid and support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa	Adopted w/o vote
48/159 B	Programme of work of the Special Committee against Apartheid	Adopted w/o vote
48/159 C	Work of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa	Adopted w/o vote
48/159 D	United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa	Adopted w/o vote
48/160	United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	Adopted w/o vote

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* The final text of resolutions 48/159 A-D and 48/160 had not been issued at the time of preparation of the present issue of Notes and Documents. The text reproduced herein is that of the draft resolutions before the General Assembly (A/48/L.29, A/48/L.30, A/48/L.31/Rev. 1, A/48/L.36, A/48/L.37). The official text of the resolutions will be issued subsequently in the Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/48/49).

48/159 A International efforts towards the total eradication of apartheid and support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, set forth in the annex to its resolution S-16/1, adopted by consensus on 14 December 1989,

Recalling resolution 48/1 of 8 October 1993 on the lifting of sanctions against South Africa,

Also recalling the initiative of the Organization of African Unity to place before the Security Council the question of violence in South Africa,

Further recalling with satisfaction Security Council resolutions 765 (1992) of 16 July 1992 and 772 (1992) of 17 August 1992, in which the Council authorized the deployment of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa, as well as the deployment there of observers from the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth and the European Union,

Welcoming the communiqué of the Extraordinary Session of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of African Unity Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa on 29 September 1993,

Taking note also of the report of the Special Committee against Apartheid, 1/ the report of the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid on his mission to South Africa, 2/ as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated approach by the United Nations system on questions relating to South Africa, 3/ and the fourth progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 1989 Declaration, 4/

Recognizing the responsibility of the United Nations and the international community, as envisaged in the Declaration, to help the South African people in their legitimate struggle for the total elimination of apartheid through peaceful means,

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1/ To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/48/22).

2/ A/48/202-S/25895.

3/ A/48/467 and Add.1.

4/ A/48/691.

Noting the agreements reached within the framework of the resumed multi-party negotiations to hold elections on 27 April 1994, and on the establishment of the Transitional Executive Council, the Independent Electoral and Media Commissions, and the Independent Broadcasting Authority,

Also noting the endorsement by the parties in the multi-party negotiations of the Constitution for the Transitional Period and the Electoral Bill,

Gravely concerned that continued and escalating violence threatens to undermine the process of peaceful change, through negotiated agreements, to a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa,

Bearing in mind the need to strengthen and reinforce all mechanisms set up to prevent violence in South Africa and emphasizing the need for all parties to cooperate in combating violence and to exercise restraint,

Encouraging the efforts of all parties, including ongoing talks among them, aimed at establishing arrangements for the transition to a democratic order,

Noting with concern the remaining effects of the acts of destabilization that were committed by South Africa against the neighbouring African States,

1. Welcomes the agreements reached within the framework of the multi-party negotiations on holding elections on 27 April 1994, on the establishment of the Transitional Executive Council, the Independent Electoral and Media Commissions, the Independent Broadcasting Authority, and on the Constitution for the Transitional Period as well as the Electoral Bill;

2. Strongly urges the South African authorities to exercise fully and impartially the primary responsibility of government to bring to an end the ongoing violence, to protect the lives, security and property of all South Africans in all of South Africa, and to promote and protect their right to participate in the democratic process, including the right to demonstrate peacefully in public, to organize and participate in political rallies in all parts of South Africa, and to run for election and participate in the elections without intimidation;

3. Calls upon the South African authorities in this context to bring to justice those responsible for acts of violence, to take the necessary measures for the peaceful reincorporation of the "homelands" into South Africa, and to ensure that the populations in those territories can freely participate in the elections, and that all political parties will be able to run election campaigns there free of intimidation;

4. Calls upon all parties to refrain from acts of violence and to do their utmost to combat violence;

5. Urgently calls upon all signatories to the National Peace Accord 5/ to recommit themselves to the process of peaceful change by fully and effectively implementing its provisions, and by cooperating with each other to that end;

6. Also calls upon all other parties to contribute to the achievement of the aims of the National Peace Accord;

7. Commends the Secretary-General for those measures taken to address areas of concern noted in his reports and particularly to assist in strengthening the structures set up under the National Peace Accord, including the deployment of United Nations observers in South Africa, and expresses its appreciation for the activities carried out by the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa;

8. Supports the recommendation of the Secretary-General for the additional deployment of observers in South Africa to further the purposes of the National Peace Accord, and urges him to continue to address all the areas of concern noted in his report which fall within the purview of the United Nations;

9. Also welcomes the continuing role of the observers of the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth and the European Union deployed in South Africa;

10. Urges all parties in South Africa, including those which did not participate fully in the multi-party talks, to respect agreements reached during the negotiations, to recommit themselves to democratic principles, to take part in the elections and to resolve outstanding issues by peaceful means only;

11. Calls upon all Governments to observe fully the mandatory arms embargo imposed by the Security Council, requests the Security Council to continue to monitor effectively its strict implementation, and urges States to adhere to the provisions of other Security Council resolutions on the import of arms from South Africa and the export of equipment and technology destined for military purposes in that country;

12. Demands the immediate release of remaining political prisoners;

13. Appeals to the international community to increase humanitarian and legal assistance to the victims of apartheid, to

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5/ A/47/431-S/24544, annex, annexure J.

the returning refugees and exiles, and to released political prisoners;

14. Calls upon the international community to continue to assist disadvantaged South African democratic anti-apartheid organizations and individuals in the academic, scientific and cultural fields;

15. Also calls upon the international community to assist the non-racial sports bodies in South Africa in redressing the continuing structural inequalities in sports in that country;

16. Strongly urges the international community, following the adoption of resolution 48/1 on 8 October 1993, to respond to the appeal for assistance by the people of South Africa in the economic reconstruction of their country and to ensure that the new South Africa begins its existence on a firm economic base;

17. Appeals to the international community to render all possible assistance to States neighbouring South Africa to enable them to recover from the effects of past acts of destabilization and to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the subregion;

18. Calls upon the Secretary-General to respond promptly and positively to a request for electoral assistance from the transitional authorities in South Africa, bearing in mind that the elections are set for 27 April 1994;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to accelerate planning for a United Nations role in the election process, in consultation with the Security Council and in coordination with the observer missions of the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth and the European Union;

20. Also requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for the initiation and coordination among the United Nations and its agencies of detailed planning for programmes of socio-economic assistance, particularly in the areas of human resource development, employment, health and housing, and to ensure also that those programmes are coordinated with other international agencies and with legitimate non-racial structures in South Africa;

21. Commends the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth for their initiative to start planning for an international donors' conference on human resource development for post-apartheid South Africa, to take place following the election of a non-racial and democratic Government;

22. Calls upon the international community to continue to exercise vigilance with respect to developments in South Africa to ensure that the common objective of the people of South Africa and the international community is achieved, without deviation or obstruction, by the establishment of a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa.

ADOPTED ON 20 DECEMBER 1993 WITHOUT A VOTE.

48/159 B Programme of work of the Special Committee against Apartheid

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee against Apartheid, 1/

Recognizing the important role that the Special Committee has held in mobilizing international support for the elimination of apartheid and in promoting an international consensus on this critical issue, as reflected in the adoption by consensus of the Declaration of Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa on 14 December 1989, 2/ in General Assembly decision 45/457 B of 13 September 1991 and in its resolutions 45/176 A of 19 December 1990, 46/79 A of 13 December 1991, 47/116 A and B of 18 December 1992,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Committee against Apartheid on its work, under its mandate, in support of the peaceful elimination of apartheid through the process of a negotiated transition of South Africa to a democratic, non-racial society;

2. Also taking note with appreciation of the report of the Chairman of the Special Committee of his mission, together with a delegation of the Committee, to South Africa from 1 to 11 March 1993; 3/

3. Commends the Special Committee for organizing, together with the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa

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1/ To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/48/22).

2/ General Assembly resolution S-16/1, annex.

3/ A/48/202.

and the Institute for Multi-Party Democracy, of the Symposium on Political Tolerance in South Africa: Role of Opinion-Makers and Media, which was held at Cape Town from 30 July to 1 August 1993;

4. Authorizes the Special Committee against Apartheid, until the completion of its mandate following the establishment of a democratically elected non-racial Government in South Africa:

(a) To follow closely developments in South Africa;

(b) To continue to facilitate a peaceful and stable transition in South Africa by promoting international assistance in helping South Africans to overcome the negative social and economic consequences of the policies of apartheid;

(c) To maintain contacts with academic institutions, the labour, business and civic communities, including community-based and other non-governmental organizations in South Africa;

(d) To consult with the parties participating in the political process, with legitimate non-racial structures, and with a democratically elected non-racial Government with a view to facilitating the resumption of the participation of South Africa in the work of the General Assembly;

(e) To submit, as soon as possible following the establishment of a democratically elected non-racial Government, a final report to the General Assembly;

(f) To undertake other relevant activities aimed at supporting the political process of peaceful change until a democratically elected non-racial Government has been established in South Africa;

5. Expresses appreciation for the cooperation extended to the Special Committee on Apartheid by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and relevant components of the United Nations system, and invites them to continue their cooperation;

6. Decides that the special allocation of 240,000 United States dollars to the Special Committee for 1994 from the regular budget of the United Nations should be used towards the cost of special projects aimed at promoting the process towards the elimination of apartheid through the establishment of a democratically elected and non-racial Government in South Africa;

7. Also decides to continue to authorize adequate financial provision in the regular budget of the United Nations to enable the African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania to maintain offices in New York

so that they may participate effectively in the deliberations of the Special Committee against Apartheid and in deliberations relating to the situation in South Africa in other relevant United Nations bodies, on the understanding that such grants will continue until the situation of the two organizations as political parties has been regularized.

ADOPTED ON 20 DECEMBER 1993 WITHOUT A VOTE.

48/159 C Work of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa, 1/

Recalling its resolutions 47/116 D of 18 December 1992 and 48/1 of 8 October 1993,

Welcoming the establishment of the Transitional Executive Council in South Africa,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products and endorses its recommendations; 2/

2. Decides to terminate the mandate of the Intergovernmental Group as of the date of the adoption of the present resolution;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to issue by 30 January 1994, as addenda to the report of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products, the responses of States to requests addressed to them regarding the cases contained in the annexes of that report.

ADOPTED ON 20 DECEMBER 1993 WITHOUT A VOTE.

1/ A/48/43-S/26189.

2/ Ibid., sect. IV.B.

48/159 D United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, in particular resolution 47/116 C of 18 December 1992,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, 1/ to which is annexed the report of the Committee of Trustees of the Trust Fund,

Taking note of its resolution 46/79 F adopted without a vote on 13 December 1991, in particular paragraph 3, relating to assistance by the Trust Fund for work in the legal field,

Welcoming the agreements reached within the framework of the resumed multi-party negotiations and approved by Parliament to hold elections next year on the basis of universal suffrage and to establish a Transitional Executive Council, as well as legislative and other measures adopted to promote free political activity in the run-up to free and fair elections,

Recognizing the work being carried out by broad-based, impartial voluntary organizations inside South Africa in providing legal and humanitarian assistance to victims of apartheid and racial discrimination and noting with satisfaction the working relationship that the Trust Fund has established with those South African organizations,

Concerned about continued political violence and the dangers it represents for the democratic process and for the country at large,

Convinced that time is nearing when South African authorities, within new, non-racial and democratic structures, will take responsibility for matters which have been within the mandate of the Trust Fund,

1. Endorses the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa; 1/

2. Supports continued humanitarian, legal and educational assistance by the international community towards alleviating the plight of victims of apartheid in South Africa, and towards facilitating the reintegration of released political prisoners and returning exiles into South African society;

1/ A/48/523.

3. Endorses the decision of the Trust Fund to channel its assistance through appropriate non-governmental organizations inside South Africa;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have contributed to the Trust Fund and to the voluntary agencies engaged in rendering humanitarian and legal assistance to the victims of apartheid in South Africa;

5. Expresses its conviction that the Trust Fund has an important role to play during the final stage of the elimination of apartheid by assisting efforts in the legal field aimed at ensuring effective implementation of legislation repealing major apartheid laws, redressing the continuing adverse effects of those laws and encouraging increased public confidence in the role of law and, therefore, appeals for generous contributions to the Fund;

6. Commends the Secretary-General and the Committee of Trustees of the Trust Fund for their persistent and worthy efforts throughout the years to promote humanitarian and legal assistance to the victims of apartheid and racial discrimination.

ADOPTED ON 20 DECEMBER 1993 WITHOUT A VOTE.

48/160 United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, in particular resolution 47/117 of 18 December 1992,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 1/ containing an account of the work of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and the administration of the Programme for the period from 1 September 1992 to 31 August 1993,

Noting with satisfaction that the recommendations of the evaluation of the Programme undertaken in 1989 as endorsed by the Advisory Committee continued to be implemented, 2/

1/ A/48/524.

2/ A/45/553, sect. IV.

Recognizing the valuable assistance rendered by the Programme to the peoples of South Africa and Namibia,

Emphasizing the need for assistance to the people of South Africa particularly in the field of education during the transitional period,

Fully recognizing the need to provide continuing educational opportunities and counselling to students from South Africa in a wide variety of professional, cultural and linguistic disciplines, as well as opportunities for vocational and technical training and for advanced studies at graduate and postgraduate levels in priority fields of study, as often as possible at educational and training institutions within South Africa,

Noting that, in order to address the priority needs of disadvantaged South Africans, the Programme is continuing to allocate a higher proportion of resources for the purpose of institution-building in South Africa, in particular by strengthening the historically black and other institutions of higher learning, especially the technikons, through specialized training courses with built-in employability of graduates,

1. Endorses the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa;

2. Commends the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa for their efforts to adjust the Programme so that it can best help meet the needs evolving from changing circumstances in South Africa, to promote generous contributions to the Programme and to enhance cooperation with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies involved in educational and technical assistance to South Africa;

3. Endorses the Programme activities aimed at contributing to South Africa's human resources needs, especially during the transition period, by:

(a) Supporting co-sponsored projects with technikons, the historically black and other universities;

(b) Strengthening the institutional technical and financial capacity as well as the decision-making of non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations and educational institutions that serve the needs and interests of disadvantaged South Africans;

(c) Engaging educational institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in South Africa in co-sponsorship arrangements and job placement of graduates;

4. Welcomes the fact that educational and training activities of the Programme inside South Africa have expanded and its close cooperation with South African non-governmental organizations, universities and technikons;

5. Calls upon non-governmental educational institutions, private organizations and individuals concerned to assist the Programme by entering into cost-sharing and other arrangements with it and by facilitating the returnability and job placement of its graduates;

6. Appeals to Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, international professional associations and individuals to assist, within their areas of activity and influence inside South Africa, graduates of the Programme in obtaining access to job opportunities so that they can effectively contribute their professional competence and expertise towards the political, economic and social development of South Africa during the period of transition and beyond;

7. Considers that the activities of the Programme, under changing circumstances, should be planned in such a manner as to ensure that commitments made with regard to educational and training assistance to disadvantaged South Africans can be fully met;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to include the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa in the annual United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

9. Expresses its appreciation to all those who have supported the Programme by providing contributions, scholarships or places in their educational institutions;

10. Appeals to all States, institutions, organizations and individuals to offer such financial and other assistance to the Programme so as to enable it to carry out its programmed activities.

ADOPTED ON 20 DECEMBER 1993 WITHOUT A VOTE.